

Test Coordinators Update

To: Test Coordinators
From: Margo Healy
Date: July 11, 2008
Subject: AYP

Summer Greetings to all who are reading email! A few updates and clarifications for your review.

Percentile Ranks Posted

Dr. Bert Stoneberg has completed the percentile charts for the Spring 2008 ISAT administration. You will find them posted on the Board ISAT Website: <http://www.boardofed.idaho.gov/saa/index.asp>. As you use these percentile rankings, keep in mind that the ISAT is a grade-level assessment of the Idaho Content Standards. As we continue to focus instruction on the standards, the proficient and advanced levels will be attained by more and more students. Clumping will occur! The ISAT is an assessment to measure the skills and knowledge of students as compared to the grade-level Idaho Content Standards. It is not intended to spread students over a normal curve. *Proficiency for all* is the goal!

Success Stories

It will take a long time for us to find your success stories, so help us out! You tell us! When the news media calls I like to tell them of your successes. This is your chance to brag about your success and give me a hint as to how you accomplished greatness. Please email me with your good news and I will share it. Here are some good ones!

- I know of one district that had missed AYP for six consecutive years and made AYP this year!!!! They are now in the holding pattern--not advancing to RESTRUCTURING. When they make AYP next year, they will be out of School Improvement Status.
- Four junior high and four high schools were in Year 4 of School Improvement also made AYP and have entered the holding pattern. Next year, when these schools make AYP, these eight schools will be out! Whew!

Board Actions in June

The Board made several decisions affecting assessment in the June meeting:

- Waive 2nd grade testing for 2008-2009
- Waive 9th grade testing for 2008-2009
- Waive the Fall 2008 ISAT for grades 3-8 and 10
Fall Graduation Retest opportunity for 11th and 12th grade students will be administered as scheduled.
- Approved new averaging rule for small schools and districts
- Approved flexibility for schools that miss only with the subgroup of SWD, 2% allowance
- Approved holding the Annual Measurable Goals for reading, math and language usage through the 2009 Spring ISAT administration. This was also approved by the US Department of Education.

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Reading	78%	78%	78%	85%
Math	70%	70%	70%	80%
Language Usage	78%	78%	78%	85%

Clarify X –Files

SPEX1, SPEX2, LEPX1, and LEPX2

Remember when you argued that SpEd and LEP would never reach proficiency because when those students reached proficiency, they would most likely leave the program? These categories were created to allow you to count these students for proficiency for two years additional years to raise the averages of the subpopulation. X-1 and X-2 students count for your proficiency but are not included for your minimum n count of 34 students.

AYP Presentation

In response to many questions, I have created a brief PPT that may help you understand and explain AYP and Accountability to your teachers and staff. The presentation is only six or seven slides. You will find it posted on the ISAT Webpage.

AYP Appeals

The appeals window closes on July 31. All supporting materials must be received in the Board offices by 5:00 PM July 31.